846 and demons; on the other hand it also aims at inducing the father to identify himself intimately with the child. Obviously the women, for whom these customs do not provide the least amount of consideration, quickly lose their earlier beauty and after a few years, they wilt and become horridly ugly.

594 The marriage of the Cayapa is most harmonious. They do not
[595 have polygamy or polyandry, and adultery never occurs or only
837] [287] very rarely. Women or girls who have relationships with
[689] white or black men or those of any other race, are killed without pity. In fact they are even forbidden to enter into innocent conversation with such men under threat of severe penalty. If one of the spouses dies, they do not remarry, remaining faithful to the
[764] dead. The dead are only buried when the corpse is already in a state of decomposition and when the pestilent smell has become unbearable.

574 While the villagers and inhabitants of other races in these parts
648 are very hospitable and will always offer hospitality to travelers, no matter how poor they are, even without expecting any remuneration, the Cayapa are an exception to this rule. They fear strangers on account of their women, who are not always safe from them; but most particularly they hate the Negroes who have repeatedly attacked their women forcibly. For this reason it is not easy to obtain shelter in Cayapa villages. As they have frequently also been robbed and mistreated by Negroes, they leave their huts as soon as a Negro settles in the neighborhood, and keep on withdrawing further inland. Thus they have already completely disappeared from the banks of the Santiago River and the lower course of the Cayapa River.

135 There still is a lot of gold in their region, as indeed there are
316 small layers of alluvial gold in all these rivers. But these Indians, with the exception of a few, more modern minded, and the rene-
[301] gades, do not collect it, nor do they wear gold ornaments. On the other hand none of them would tell a stranger where the yellow metal could be found, even if he were offered a fortune for his secret. From the Cayapa point of view gold is an accursed thing, which brought the white and the black devils into the country and was responsible for their being pushed back into the interior and
[648] robbed of their dominion. The Negroes, however, are their sworn enemies because they have too often had to suffer bitter injustice from them.

3: Barrett E-5 (1908-1909)1925
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135 in considerable deposits along this portion of the coast of Ecuador. In fact this region, like a large part of the western coast of South America, is rich in precious metals, those present in this particular locality being chiefly gold and platinum, although silver and copper are also found. It is an interesting fact that platinum first became known to the civilized world through its introduction from the Province of Esmeraldas; it had, however, been discovered and employed to a considerable extent in the making of ornaments by the aboriginal inhabitants of the region about the mouth of the Rio Santiago before its introduction into the modern arts, in fact long before the coming of Columbus. The high development reached in the art of metal-working by the ancient inhabitants of this section is shown particularly by the elaborate and delicately wrought ornaments of gold and platinum, and occasionally also of silver and copper, found so abundantly at La Tolita near the mouth of the Rio Santiago and at certain other points in that vicinity.

325 The Cayapa Indians of the present day are quite differently disposed toward metal-working, for they have no knowledge of the art, now using no metal [439] objects other than those obtained by trade, such as [173] axes, adzes, and machetes. They assert that they never came into contact with the ancient metal-workers of this region, for the reason that they were long ago driven out or exterminated by another tribe which the Cayapa in turn banished in comparatively recent times. Not 316 only do the Cayapa do no metal-work themselves, but

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they have no knowledge of mining and are not at all inclined to acquire such knowledge even though they realize that gold and platinum command good prices at the settlements. Furthermore, they are extremely distrustful of and even hostile to everyone connected with mining or prospecting enterprises.

Health Conditions

Associated with the natural resources of a region are its health conditions, which in the Province of Esmeraldas are very good in comparison with most parts of the South American tropics. In fact the Esmeraldas shore is reputed, on good grounds, to be the most salubrious territory of the entire western coast of South America. Indeed, during the entire time spent by the author in the region, there was not, so far as could be learned, a case of any of the ultra-serious contagious diseases, and certainly none was reported in those portions of the province in which he resided. During the same period, however, both bubonic plague and yellow fever broke out with marked violence at Guayaquil, about two hundred miles southward, and there was also an epidemic of yellow fever at Tumaco, not more than fifty miles to the north along the coast from the mouth of the Rio Santiago. As pointed out in speaking of the insects of this region, neither the plague-bearing flea nor the yellow-fever bearing mosquito are found in the Province of Esmeraldas, hence the absence of these two diseases.

The most serious, and in fact practically the only serious, contagious disease of frequent occurrence in